PO Box 187 Winnett, MT 59087 January 8, 2023

House Bill 12: Montana Historic Preservation Grants Long Range Planning Committee Proponent

Dear Long Range Planning Committee:

I am a lifelong resident of Petroleum County and former county commissioner. The second floor of our courthouse has been mostly vacant for fifty years. This project will restore and repurpose an unused portion of the courthouse. Thirty-five years ago when I was on the school board, we had difficulty finding housing for teachers. We have the same difficulty today. This project will make the courthouse more energy efficient, while providing much needed housing and office space. Please support Project # 4, the rehabilitation of the Petroleum County Courthouse, with Montana Historic Preservation Grant Program (MHPG) funds as recommended in the Governor's 2025 Biennium Executive Budget.

I would appreciate your support in funding the Petroleum County Courthouse Rehabilitation project as recommended in the Governor's Budget.

Sincerely,

d. Chris King

king@midrivers.com